AN ESSAY

Towards Promoting all

Neceſſary and Uſeful Knowledge,

BOTH

Divine and Human,

In all the PARTS of

His MAJESTY's *Dominions*,

Both at Home and Abroad.

By THOMAS BRAY, *D.D.*

Λίθοι δὲ καὶ ξύλα, οἱ ἄφρονες.
Πρὸς δὲ καὶ λίθων ἀναισθητότερος
Ἄνθρωπος ἀγνοίᾳ βεβαπτισμένος. Clemens Alex. Admonit. ad Gentes.

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LIBRARY OF THE UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

TO THE READER.

KNowledge is the faireſt Ornament of the Soul of Man; and whoſoever is Endow'd therewith, let it be of any kind, which is not miſchievous, fails not of Eſteem amongſt all ſorts of Perſons. This is certain, that Knowledge does more diſtinguiſh the Poſſeſſors of it, than Titles, Riches, or great Places: For tho' theſe Men may command the Cap and the Knee, and extort ſome outward kind of Reverence from Inferiors; yet the Man of Underſtanding is he, who is inwardly and truly reſpected, whilſt the Gaudy, but Empty Beau, is no other than the Scorn and Deriſion of all who Converſe with him. But

especially a Man is then Esteemed for his Knowledge, if his Understanding is Eminent in things laudable, and of great Weight and Moment, for whatever is greatly useful is highly valuable.

And such is the Knowledge, which I am endeavouring to provide for, by the following Proposals.

For why? as to the Theological part; In the first place, this is a Knowledge Conversant about the greatest Objects, God, and our selves; **Secondly,** *and that about the Grandest and most Concerning Truths relating to those Objects.* **Thirdly,** *It is a Knowledge to which the most considerable of other Sciences are some way or other appendant and subservient.* **Fourthly,** *It is a Knowledge founded upon more certain Principles than all other Sciences whatsoever (scarce the Mathematicks excepted) All which speak the Noble Na-*

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ture of Divine Knowledge. And Lastly, It is the only Knowledge which can conduct us safe through the Mazes and Labyrinths of this World, to our Rest and Happiness in the other; which does eminently shew the Usefulness of it.

Nor will the other parts of Knowledge I propose to promote by the following kind of Libraries, be Unuseful. From History we can take a noble view of all Mankind: and by our Observations from thence of the different Fates of Men, and their Causes, we may form to our selves most excellent Rules for the Conduct of Humane Life. Travels discover the Commodities of Foreign Countries, to the great Enriching of our own; and not only Merchants, but all other Persons besides, by reading the Accounts of so many Nations of Men in the World, sunk down to the lowness of Brutes for want of Knowledge, may see Infinite Reason to bless that God,

God, who by an admirable Religion enlightning our Minds, has rais'd us above the Animal **Life**; *and so vastly distinguishes us from the Barbarous part of Mankind. What shall I say? By Knowledge in Humanity or Morality, men become, as it were,* τεταγμένοι εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον, *disposed for the Reception of that Faith which will save 'em, and those Divine Graces, which will render 'em capable of Eternal Life. By an Insight into Nature, Gardening, Agriculture,* &c. *All sorts of Persons will learn how to meliorate their Condition and manner of Living whilst here on Earth. And if there may be added hereafter to our* **Libraries**, *the Best Authors in* **Mathematicks, Physick** *and* **Law**, *there will be no means wanting even in the most Uncultivated parts of this Kingdom, to render the Thinking, Reading, and the best part of the Inhabitants thereof both Intellectually, Morally and Civilly, as well as Divine.*

vinely Happy: For which Reasons I hope, though this Design seems more immediately directed to the Service of the Clergy, yet Gentlemen, Physicians and Lawyers will perceive they are not neglected in it, and will see themselves concerned to promote it.

And indeed those Persons of Quality, whose Eldest Sons being commonly brought up to no Employment, have a great deal of Time lying upon their Hands, seem to me to be as nearly concern'd as any, to favour it. For many of these young Gentle-Men, when removed from the Universities, those Fountains of useful and substantial Knowledge, and residing all their Life-time in Countries, where they can meet with no Books to employ themselves in reading, and whereby they may be able to improve the Talent they have there gain'd; they do thereupon too commonly become not so conspicuous for their Excellent Knowledge, and Morals,

rals, as will be ever expected from Men of Rank and Station in their Country. And when they happen into one another's Company, for want of Good Sense, are forc'd too often to fill up their Discourse, and maintain a Conversation, in the Porterly Language of Swearing, and Obscenity.

In short, I think all Persons of a liberal and ingenuous Education, are so much concern'd in a Design of this Nature, that I cannot but flatter my self with the Expectations of some sort of Success in the Undertaking. But however I hope I have offer'd at nothing which all candid Persons will not own to be honestly design'd, and which Scholars of all Professions will not at leastwise wish well to, though for want of men of a publick and active Spirit to manage it in their respective Towns or Deanaries, little or nothing should be accomplish'd in it.

PRO-

PROPOSALS

TO THE

Gentry and Clergy of this Kingdom,

For Purchasing Lending Libraries in all the Deanaries of *England*, and Parochial Libraries for *Maryland*, *Virginia*, and other of the Foreign Plantations, pursuant to what is spoke of Both, in the Prefatory Epistle to the *Bibliotheca Parochialis.*

Honoured SIRS,

AMongst the many Laudable Contrivances for promoting Religion and Learning in the World, in which several Persons of a Publick Spirit have labour'd more or less in all Ages, there seem none to me would be of greater Advantages to either, would tend more to cultivate the Minds of our young Gentry, and can be more adapted to the present Circumstances of our *Parochial Clergy* (one third of whom I am afraid are not enabled by their Preferments to pur-

chaſe a fourth part of thoſe Books, which it is abſolutely neceſſary every Paſtor ſhould peruſe; and yet from whom great meaſures of Knowledge are expected in this inquiſitive Age) than if we could have *Lending Libraries* diſpos'd, one in every Deanary throughout the Kingdom, for the Service of thoſe who have occaſion to borrow. I ſhall not here repeat what I have already ſpoken of the Benefit thereof, both to Clergy and Laity, in the Preſatory Epiſtle to my **Bibliotheca Parochialis**: But having,

First, *Computed the Charge of each Library*;

Secondly, *I will ſhew by what means they may be purchas'd*:

Thirdly, *How they may be preſerv'd*: And,

First, *As to the Charge*, I preſume, if the Foundation of a Library were once laid in each Deanary, the Stock by one means or other would ſoon encreaſe to a compleat Sett of all neceſſary Books: And that well-choſen Books to the value of 30 *l.* would lay a good Foundation.

Secondly, I am next to ſhew by what Methods they may be purchas'd; and the moſt eaſie and likely Method I can propoſe, will be by Subſcriptions rais'd amongſt both Clergy and Gentry; each Clergy-man ſubſcribing at the Viſitation ſome ſmall matter proportionuble to the Value of his Living, or Circumſtances in the World; the Gentry, what in their Generoſity they ſhall think fit. And the Subſcriptions of both to be taken, and return'd to *London*; and the Libraries tranſmitted into the Country in the Method following.

1. That

1. That one Third of the Subſcription-Mony, *viz.* 10*l.* be ſubſcrib'd, and paid at the next *Eaſter*-Viſitation, to the Rural Dean, or whom the Clergy of the Deanary ſhall agree upon, and return'd up to the Treaſurers of the Subſcriptions, Mr. *Francis Evans*, Secretary to the Lord Biſhop of *Coventry* and *Litchfield*, or Mr. *Thomas Taylor* at the Lord Almoner's Lodgings in *White-Hall.*

2. That within a Month after, the following Books to the value of Thirty Pound, be ſent down into the ſubſcribing Deanaries to ſuch Places as from the Viſitation ſhall be directed. And that they be made up in ſuch Boxes, or Book-Preſſes, with Shelves in them, and Locks and Doors to 'em, as will ſerve both to preſerve 'em in the Carriage down, and in the Place where they ſhall be depoſited for the Publick Benefit. And being kept in ſuch moveable Repoſitories, they can at any time be remov'd to any other part of the Deanary, as by the Vote of the Clergy at a Viſitation ſhall be judged moſt convenient to have 'em lodg'd in; and that without the Charge of building any Room wherein to lay 'em up.

3. That to make up the remaining two Thirds for the Purchaſe of the Books, each of the Clergy do in their reſpective Pariſhes and amongſt the Gentry of their Acquaintance, ſollicit ſome ſmall Subſcription towards this Publick Deſign, by which ſuch Subſcribers, whether Gentlemen, or Ladies, will be entitled to the Priviledge of borrowing at any time a Book for their own Reading; and that there may be proper and acceptable Books for them, there are ſome of the moſt valuable pieces of Hiſtory,

ſtory, Geography, and Travels, provided in the following Sett.

4. That what is Subſcribed by the Gentry, be brought in to to the next *Michaelmas* Viſitation, and enter'd down in a Book, together with the Subſcriptions of the Clergy, to be kept in every Library: And if there be ſomething wanting to make up the remaining Twenty Pounds, it be made up by the Clergy, if there be any over, it be apply'd towards paying for the Book-Preſſes and Carriage down, and the Surpluſage be laid up in Bank againſt next *Eaſter* Viſitation after this, towards purchaſing another like quantity of Books, in order to compleat a uſeful and ſufficient Library in the reſpective Deanary.

5. That the Books ſhall be afforded to the Subſcribers, ſomething below the Prices at which the Clergy, or Gentry uſually buy 'em by Retail in the Bookſellers Shops.

6. That what *Gratis*-Books will be obtain'd of the Bookſeller, in conſideration of ſo many bought of 'em towards theſe *Lending Libraries*; that theſe be ſet apart towards making up *Parochial Libraries* for for the *Foreign Plantations*. And it is found, that one Library in ten at leaſt, will be obtain'd by this means towards the Publick Deſign; to which all Chriſtians, methinks, ſhould readily contribute; ſuch as are moſt able, by immediate Benefactions; and every one that is *not unable* in ſuch a way as this, in which they have a valuable conſideration to themſelves for what they do towards carrying on that *neceſſary Work*; for ſo I ſhall be bold to call it, if it were

were but to ward off the Reproach under which we juſtly lye, even to this day; that whilſt our Adverſaries the *Papiſts*, are at vaſt Charges every Year, in promoting their falſe Superſtition in the remoteſt parts of the World, there are but too few amongſt us, *pudet hæc Opprobria dici, & dici potuiſſe*, who have yet ſhew'd that Value for their Religion, and the Honour of God, as to contribute in any conſiderable way to advance the Glory of their Saviour, by propagating the beſt Religion in the whole World, either here at home, or amongſt their Country-men abroad.

There is but one Objection I can foreſee againſt this Method of procuring theſe *Leuding Libraries*, and that is the exceſſive ſcarcity of Money, eſpecially amongſt the Clergy at this time, when they are exhauſted more than others by Publick Payments.

But indeed, the very Objection it ſelf ſeems to me to be the moſt forcible Reaſon for putting a Deſign of this Nature on foot, and that eſpecially at this time. For is it ſo, that one third of the Engliſh Clergy, are not now in a Condition to buy a ſufficient quantity of Books? Well, but on the other ſide, I hope it will be granted, that Books muſt be had, or elſe Religion muſt e'en fall to the ground. And if ſo, putting both together, I think it will follow, that ſince very few are capable to furniſh their Studies at their own proper Coſt, it is therefore neceſſary that all ſhould join their Forces; and what is impoſſible for 'em ſingly, would be eaſie for 'em jointly; for *Multorum manibus grande Levatur Onus*; ſo that indeed this is really the moſt proper Seaſon to ſet ſuch a Deſign on foot.

But

But then if we consider to what a high Perfection, most, if not all parts of useful Learning have advanc'd in this last Age, so that we may rather fear a declension thereof (as is usual with every thing when it comes to its full growth) than hope for much farther Improvements therein: But above all, if we consider the impious Principles which have begun to advance against us, and have gain'd so much ground upon us by the Industry of some, who at great Charge and Expence, do labour to poison both Town and Country with their Atheistical and Socinian Notions; These things, I say, if duly consider'd, will convince us, that this seems to be the very time pointed out by the Divine Providence for us to provide ourselves of *Magazines*, out of which we may be sufficiently furnish'd with that Panoply of excellent Learning and Knowledge, whereby we shall secure our selves and others, *against the fiery Darts of the Devil*; and may be enabled at leastwise to stand our ground, whilst Atheists, Deists and Socinians, do so *earnestly contend* against *the Faith*. So much, upon many great Accounts, it seems to me to be a most proper Season now to begin the Foundation of *Lending Libraries* throughout the Kingdom.

And whereas many of our Reverend Clergy have Noble Libraries of their own, so as not to need themselves a Supply of this Nature, I am not to doubt their Subscribing notwithstanding, since the Design of these Libraries is not to serve a Man's private, but the publick Interest of Religion and Learning; which such Reverend and Learned Persons do well know (none better) that every one is bound to provide for, more than his own, especially those whose Condition and Circumstances in the World shall best enable 'em for good Works.

I am not indeed ſo ſanguine as to hope or expect, that notwithſtanding the Charge in the foregoing Method is made ſo eaſie, that a Clergy-man of Two hundred Pounds *per Annum*, need not ſubſcribe at a Viſitation above Ten or Fifteen Shillings, of One hundred Pound above Five or Ten Shillings, and of Fifty Pounds above half a Crown or Five Shillings; notwithſtanding this, I am not, I ſay, ſo unacquainted with the Temper of the World, as to expect that an Affair of this Nature ſhould not meet with Exceptions from ſome. And I alſo know the *Prince of Darkneſs* (the ſtrength of whoſe Kingdom does lye in the Ignorance of Mankind) has too much Intereſt at ſtake, to let a Deſign, which does ſo directly tend to the Ruine of his Dominion over the Souls of Men, go on without Obſtruction. But however the Management of this Affair falling into the hands of ſuch as do ſo well underſtand the Uſe and Benefit of Books, and who are withal ſo ſenſible of the peculiar need of 'em at this time, I hope there will be a ſufficient number found in moſt Deanaries of well-diſpoſed and publick-ſpirited Perſons, both amongſt the Clergy and Gentry, who will carry it on in their reſpective Diſtricts: And even thoſe, who may be backward at firſt, may come in afterwards, when they ſhall better conſider the Tendency which theſe Libraries will have to the Glory of God, and to increaſe the Uſefulneſs and Eſteem of the Clergy: So that tho' ſome ſhould happen at firſt to refuſe ſubſcribing, it will not I hope diſcourage others from promoting the Deſign, ſo far as to make up at next Viſitation the firſt Ten Pounds amongſt themſelves towards laying the Foundation.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, And now I am to ſhew how the Lending Libraries particularly, may be preſerv'd.

How the *Parochial* may be ſecur'd from Loſs or Imbezelment, is, I hope ſatisfactorily ſhewed in the Prefatory Epiſtle to the *Bibliotheca Parochialis*: But it being deſign'd that theſe *Lending Libraries* ſhould *travel abroad*, it may ſeem that the Books will be in danger to be ſoon loſt by paſſing through ſo many hands: However, in order to their being fully ſecur'd, it may be provided by theſe following Methods; 1. That they be marked upon the Covers to what Deanary they belong. 2. That they be lock'd up in Book-Preſſes made on purpoſe to keep them in. 3. That they be depoſited with the Rural Dean, or with the Miniſter or School-Maſter in ſome Market-Town, if near the Centre of the Deanary, that ſo they may with very little trouble be ſent for any Market-day, and as eaſily return'd within a limited time: And it may be preſum'd, that any Miniſter or School-Maſter, for the uſe of ſuch a Library under his Key, will be willing to undertake the trouble to lend out the Books, and receive them in upon occaſion. 4. That the Limitation of Time for keeping a borrowed Book be determined by the Reverend Subſcribers at the Viſitation, as a Month for a Folio, a Fortnight for a 4*o*. and a Week for an 8*o*. which will have this good Effect, that a Book will be read over with ſpeed and care; which if one's own, might lye in a Study without being quickly or very carefully peruſed, upon preſumption that being one's own it may at any time be read; and therefore this by the way may be conſider'd as one Advantage of *Lending Libraries*. 5. That the Borrower having ſent a Note deſiring any Book, his

Note

Note be filed up, and his Name enter'd in a Book kept in the Library for that purpoſe, what Year, Month and Day he borrowed ſuch a Book; and upon the Return of the Book, the Note be alſo return'd, and the Name of the Borrower croſs'd out. 6. That a Regiſter of the Books belonging to every Deanary, be given to the reſpective Biſhops, and Arch-Deacons. 7. That each Library may be viſited once a Year by the Arch-Deacon in Perſon, or by three of his Clergy deputed by him to ſee that the Books be not imbezeled or loſt. And by theſe means I believe they will be very well preſerv'd; for why? Their being Letter'd to what Deanary they belong, will prevent their being transferr'd into any Man's private keeping; or if they are, they'll be as readily diſcover'd and own'd, as any living Creature by its Ear-Mark; and the Arch-Deacon's Viſitation will call 'em all in once a-year: And indeed ſo far am I from fearing that theſe Libraries will ſuffer any Diminution by loſs of Books, that I believe they will daily encreaſe; for the thing being once put on foot, the Clergy at every Viſitation will be apt to continue ſome ſmall Subſcriptions to buy in the new pieces as they ſhall come forth; eſpecially ſuch as ſhall tend conſiderably to the improvement of any part of Chriſtian Knowledge. And moreover, the Foundation being once laid, many Learned Perſons amongſt the Clergy, and others who have a Zeal for the Churches Good, will be likely to leave at their Death, their own Libraries, as additions to theſe Lending Libraries propoſed, and perhaps Legacies to buy Books: Not to ſay that the thing being once begun, I could eaſily propoſe, how the whole Courſe of Hiſtory and Humanity may be added; and that farther means may be found out in time, to provide all

the *Smaller Livings* throughout the Kingdom, with ſuch *Leſſer Parochial Libraries* as are deſign'd for the Plantations.

But to proceed, if now and then a Book ſhould be loſt, this ought no more to diſcourage our Deſign, than it ſhould have hindered our Fore-Fathers from building of Parſonage-Houſes for us, becauſe ſometimes they fall to decay; or from giving Tythes and Glebe for the Maintenance of the Clergy, becauſe theſe do ſuffer daily diminutions by Modus's growing upon us through the importunity of ſome, and the more Violent Sacrilegious Invaſions of the Churches Rights by others. Not to ſay, That there may be Proviſion made by Law to ſecure theſe Libraries, and to repair their Loſs, as well as the other Dilapidations of the Church.

And indeed, if it could be brought about by any means, that we might have 400. *Lending Libraries* fixt throughout the Kingdom, and the Clergy, by a ſmall Subſcription in every Deanary, ſhould continue to add the valuable new Books that ſhall come out hereafter; Here would be a ſufficient Incouragement provided for the Learned Men of our Univerſities, to undertake the giving us ſome more ſuch Editions of the Fathers, and other Ancient Writers, as that of St. *Cyprian*, *Thucydides*, &c. A certain Sale of 400 Books, being enough to diſcharge an Impreſſion; which one thing, as it has in this Age ſo much contributed to the Learning and Honour of a Neighbouring Nation, where, upon the Encouragement of the Monaſteries taking off each of 'em, one of every New Edition of a *Father*, or other Book of Value, the Learned of that Kingdom have been thereby encouraged, and enabled

enabled to give the World ſuch Editions as they may juſty glory in; ſo it would make exceedingly for the *Honour of our Univerſities*, and not a little for the *Int'reſt of our Nation*: For as to the former. it would raiſe a Noble Spirit of Emulation in thoſe Learned Societies, and would excite more of the Members thereof, to Exert themſelves in being ſerviceable to the World in this kind; who now for want of Encouagement, cannot ſpend their time ſo much to their own, and the Publick Good in this way, as otherwiſe they might. And as to the latter, whereas ſome Thouſand Pounds worth of Valuable Books, Printed in Foreign parts, have been Imported Yearly, we by reaſon of the better Editions of the Ancient Writers, which our more Learned Men are able to give the World, might be able to employ our own Paper-Makers, Stationers, Printers, Book-Binders, Book-Sellers here at home, to the maintaining many Thouſand Perſons amongſt us, and might export ſo much of our own, and Foreign Paper Manufactured by our ſelves, as would turn the Balance of that part of Trade conſiderably on our own ſide.

And now I am to entreat the Candour of my Reverend Brethren, that, however I may be miſtaken in the Practicableneſs of this Deſign, they would believe I ſincerely intend the Good of Souls, and the Honour of my Function, and of my Nation too, in all that is here propos'd. That I am ſo preſſing for both *Parochial Libraries* in the Plantations, and *Lending Libraries* in *England*, is, becauſe in the former, I know no good a Clergy, who are not able to furniſh themſelves with Books in going over, can do in a Country where none are

to be bought when they are there, nor to be had from the Merchants, but at exceſſive Rates. And in the latter, I am certain that Good cannot be done, which is expected from every Miniſter here in *England*, when the Third Part of our Parochial Clergy are not enabled by their Preferments, to buy the fourth part of thoſe Books, which are neceſſary to enable 'em fully to inſtruct the People in the meer Neceſſaries to Salvation. And as for our younger Gentry, I cannot think but it would tend extreamly to furniſh their Minds alſo with that uſeful Knowledge in Hiſtory, Travels, Humanity, Agriculture, and all ſuch Noble Arts and Sciences, as will render 'em ſerviceable to their Families and Countries, and will make 'em conſiderable both at home and abroad: And that it will very much keep 'em from idle Converſation, and the Debaucheries attending it, to have choice Collections of ſuch Books diſpers'd through all the Kingdom, and waiting upon 'em in their own Parlors, as will ennoble their Minds with Principles of Vertue and true Honour, and will file off that Roughneſs, Ferity and Barbarity, which are the never failing Fruits of Ignorance and Illiterature. *Standing Libraries* will ſignifie little in the Country, where Perſons muſt ride ſome miles to look into a Book; ſuch Journeys being too expenſive of Time and Money: But *Lending Libraries*, which come home to 'em without Charge, may tolerably well ſupply the Vacancies in their own Studies, till ſuch time as theſe *Lending* may be improv'd into *Parochial Libraries*.

And whereas it may be objected, that the Books will be ſo often Borrow'd, that it will be hard for any one to have the Book he wants. I am ſo far from being much concern'd to anſwer it, that I heartily wiſh the great

Uſe

Uſe and frequent Borrowing of Books out of theſe Libraries, may make it a real Objection. But to reply as far as neceſſary; the Limitations mention'd above, will fetch home any Book a Perſon ſhall want, within a Month at ſartheſt; and indeed there being ſeveral Authors ſpecify'd in ſuch a Library, as I deſign, upon moſt of the Subjects, if one be not to be had, Satisfaction may be ſought in the mean time from another. And, in the whole, I am the more forward to hope for great Advantages from theſe *Lending Libraries* eſpecially, having had ſome Experience of the Benefit thereof in a Country, where one ſuch Library left by a Pious and Learned Divine at his Death, has done much to improve many of the Parochial Clergy within ſome Miles, (who conſtantly borrow out of it,) to that degree, as to make 'em as uſeful Men in their Station, as any I have had the Happineſs to be acquainted with.

In ſhort, as meer Zeal for Publick Service hath excited me to leave no Stone unturn'd, to procure *Parochial Libraries* for the Plantations, in which I thank God I have had hitherto no mean Succeſs; ſo if with the ſame Labour I can be ſerviceable in the like Deſign to my deareſt Mother the Church, and my Reverend Brethren at home, I ſhall think my ſelf ſufficiently happy in ſuch an Employment: And indeed, as I know not that thing in the World, wherein I could take that Satisfaction, as in this piece of Service to our Church at home; ſo provided this Deſign of *Lending Libraries* in *England* ſhould univerſally take, whereby, without any Man's Charge, properly ſpeaking, ſo great an Advance will be made towards *Parochial Libraries* in the Plantations: Inſtead of *Libraries* for *Maryland*, the bounds of my firſt Deſign, I ſhall not only

ly extend my Endeavours for the Supply of all the *Engliſh* Colonies in *America* therewith; but can moſt willing be a Miſſionary into every one of thoſe Provinces, to fix and ſettle them therein when they are obtain'd, being ſo fully perſwaded of the great Benefit of theſe kind of *Libraries*, that I ſhould not think 'em too dear a Purchaſe, even at the hazard of my Life, being to both Church and Clergy

A moſt Devoted, and

Humble Servant,

THO. BRAY.

Note

Note, 1. *In those Large and Populous Cities, where there will be Subscribers enough to raise a Library, there the Library may be appropriated solely to the Use of the Clergy and Gentry of that Place; only it may be expected from the Clergy especially, that their* Quota *of Subscriptions be made also towards the Deanary-Libraries for the Use of the Rural Clergy, it being the First and Principal Design to supply them, especially those in smaller Vicarages and Curacies..*

2. *If in the same Deanary there are several Market-Towns, it would be happy if the Foundation of a Library could be laid in each of 'em, Libraries being more peculiarly useful in Market-Towns, where, though it be requisite the Abilities of the Clergy should be the greatest, yet the Provision and Maintenance for that Purpose is commonly the least.*

3. *If the Foundation of a Library can be laid in every Market-Town, then the adjacent Clergy and Gentry may entitle themselves by their Subscriptions, to the Library of such Neighbouring Towns, from whence they shall be able with most ease and conveniency to send for a Book at any time.*

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